

REMARKS

This Response is in reply to the Final Office Action mailed on February 16, 2006. Claims 1-20 are pending. Applicant appreciates Examiner's indication that claims 21 and 22 are allowed, and that claims 2-4 and 6-12 would be allowable if not for their dependence from a rejected base claim. Claim 1 was amended so that it is now identical to allowed claim 21. Accordingly, claim 1 is should now be allowable. Claims 2-9, 11, and 13-18 were amended so that they are consistent with currently amended claim 1 from which they depend, directly or indirectly. No new matter has been added. Claims 21 and 22 have been cancelled. Consideration of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

As mentioned above, claim 1 is now identical to allowed claim 21 and is, therefore, allowable. For at least the reason of their dependency from allowable claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-20 are also allowable.


CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments presented above, it is submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been overcome and should be withdrawn. The application should now be in condition for allowance.

Should any changes to the claims and/or specification be deemed necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to discuss the same.

This Response is being filed with a petition for a two-month extension of time and the requisite fee. In the event that any other extensions and/or fees are required for the entry of this Amendment, the Patent and Trademark Office is specifically authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 23-2820 in the name of Wolf, Block, Schorr & Solis-Cohen LLP. An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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